

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 04371 051429Z

42

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /031 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5131

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 4371

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SY

SUBJECT: ICJ NOMINATION: SALAH AL-DIN AL-TARAZI

REFS: A. DAMASCUS A-13 B. STATE 255843

POST BELIEVES THAT SARG EFFORTS TO SECURE ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR ICJ NOMINATION OF DR. TARAZI REFLECT DESIRE TO PROMOTE APPOINTMENT OF ITS NATIONALS TO PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL BODIES. THIS ACCORDS WITH SYRIA'S VIEW OF ITSELF AS CENTER OF ARAB NATIONALISM, POLITICS AND CULTURE. CONCERNING BIOGRAPHIC COMMENTS, WE ABLE ADD LITTLE BEYOND OUR REMARKS REF A. BASED ON OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH TARAZI OVER LAST YEAR, IT APPEARS THAT HIS FORMER PRO-COMMUNIST VIEWS MAY HAVE BEEN TEMPERED OVER TIME. HIS DIPLOMATIC AND LEGAL CREDENTIALS ARE IMPRESSIVE BY SYRIAN STANDARDS AND HE WAS LOGICAL CANDIDATE FOR SYRIA TO PUT FORWARD FOR POST. ALTHOUGH HE OCCUPIES NUMBER THREE POSITION IN MFA, HE APPARENTLY DOES NOT EXERCISE SIGNIFICANT AUTHORITY WITHIN MINISTRY.

PELLETREAU

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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